



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

January 14, 2008

Contact: George Biagi, (619) 993-6360

**Fact Sheet**

**MAYOR SANDERS ANNOUNCES YEAR-END CRIME STATISTICS;  
CRIME DOWN 2.1% FROM LAST YEAR AND 4% OVER LAST TWO YEARS**

***OVERALL CRIME RATE AT LATE-1960S LEVELS;  
VIOLENT CRIME AT LOWEST RATE SINCE 1973***

Mayor Jerry Sanders today announced the 2007 crime statistics for the City of San Diego, highlighting that the overall crime rate is down 2.1 percent from 2006 and 4 percent lower than when he assumed office at the close of 2005. The statistics show that the City's overall crime rate is comparable to rates seen in the late 1960s, and the violent crime rate is at its lowest point since 1973.

The 2007 year-end statistics show decreases from the 2006 statistics in the categories of murder, rape, robbery, burglary, larceny, theft and vehicle theft. The most significant decreases were a 14.9 percent decline in the number of rapes and 14.7 percent decline in the number of murders. The only categories that showed an increase over last year were aggravated assaults, which were up 1.9 percent, and arsons, which grew by 8.1 percent. However, since 2005, aggravated assaults are actually down 10 percent, and arsons have been reduced by 14 percent. Further, while the number of murders decreased from 68 in 2006 to 58 in 2007 (-14.7 percent), the number of gang-related murders during 2007 went up from 18 to 29, an increase of 61 percent.

**2007 OVERALL CRIME RATE COMPARABLE TO 1967-68 LEVELS**

- With an overall crime rate of 37.77 crimes per 1,000 residents during 2007, San Diego's crime rate is comparable to the City's 1967 crime rate of 36.48 and lower than 1968's rate of 41.89.
- By comparison, the City's crime rate was 81.35 in 1977, 85.52 in 1987, and 49.55 in 1997.
- The historically low rate of crimes committed in 2007 underscores San Diego's reputation as one of the safest metropolitan areas in the United States.

**VIOLENT CRIME AT LOWEST RATE SINCE 1973**

The violent crime rate, which has decreased for four consecutive years—and 13 of the past 15—is at its lowest rate since 1973, when San Diego had nearly 600,000 fewer residents. The 6,331 violent crimes reported in 2007 were the lowest since 1985.